

Application No.: 10/088656

Docket No.: 05587-00330-US

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) A polyoxymethylene composition comprising

- A from 84 to 99.79% by weight of at least one polyoxymethylene homo- or copolymer,
- B from 0.1 to 5% by weight of at least one polyalkylene glycol,
- C from 0.1 to 10% by weight of zinc oxide, and
- D from 0.01 to 1% by weight of one or more nitrogen-containing costabilizer and wherein the nitrogen-containing costabilizer comprises at least one amino compound, amide compound, hydrazine compound, urea compound or a hindered amine and said nitrogen-containing costabilizer comprises melamine .

12. (Previously presented) The polyoxymethylene as claimed in claim 11, wherein the amount of polyalkylene glycol is from 0.5 to 5% by weight.

13. (Previously presented) The polyoxymethylene as claimed in claim 11, wherein the amount of zinc oxide is from 1 to 3% by weight.

14. (Previously presented) The polyoxymethylene as claimed in claim 12, wherein the amount of zinc oxide is from 0.5 to 3% by weight.

15. canceled

16. cancelled.

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17. (Previously presented) The polyoxymethylene as claimed in claim 11, wherein the amount of nitrogen-containing costabilizers is from 0.03 to 0.3% by weight.
18. (Previously presented) The polyoxymethylene as claimed in claim 16, wherein the amount of nitrogen-containing costabilizers is from 0.03 to 0.3% by weight.
19. (Previously presented) The polyoxymethylene as claimed in claim 11, wherein test specimens in the form of ISO ¼ tensile specimens of thickness 1 mm produced from pellets obtained by melting and palletizing a mixture made from components A to D, which on each of five days in succession were fully immersed for 20 seconds in an aqueous solution made from 10% by weight of phosphoric acid and 1% by weight of an ionic surfactant, were then removed and, without wiping off any adhering acid/surfactant solution, aged freely suspended for 24 hours in an environment with controlled temperature and humidity, at 23°C and relative humidity of about 30%, and then aged for further 9 days suspended in the environment with controlled temperature and humidity, show a relative weight difference of less than 15% compared with test specimens produced in the same way but not exposed to the acid/surfactant solution.
20. (Previously presented) The polyoxymethylene as claimed in claim 19, wherein the relative change in weight of the test specimens made from components A to D is one third or less of the relative change in weight determined on test specimens made from 100% by weight of component A.
21. (Previously presented) The polyoxymethylene as claimed in claim 11, wherein said polyalkylene glycol is polyethylene glycol.

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22. (Previously presented) The polyoxymethylene as claimed in claim 11, wherein said polyalkylene glycol is polypropylene glycol.
23. (Currently amended) The polyoxymethylene as claimed in claim 11, wherein said at least one polyoxymethylene homo- or copolymer is a homopolymer of formaldehyde formaldehyde or or trioxane.
24. (Previously presented) A molding made from the polyoxymethylene as claimed in claim 11 wherein the molding when in contact with aggressive acids or with aggressive acid-containing cleaning agents is resistive to said aggressive acids or said aggressive acid-containing cleaning agents.
25. (Currently amended) The molding as claimed in claim 24claim 25, wherein the molding is used in the sanitary sector or the white goods sector.
26. (Previously presented) A method for improving the acid resistance of the polyoxymethylene homo- or copolymer which comprises making the polyoxymethylene as claimed in claim 11, by mixing components A-D together to form a mixture and then melting said mixture.
27. (Currently amended) A molding made from a polyoxymethylene composition comprising
  - A from 84 to 99.79% by weight of at least one polyoxymethylene homo- or copolymer,
  - B from 0.1 to 5% by weight of at least one polyalkylene glycol,
  - C from 0.1 to 10% by weight of zinc oxide, and

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D from 0.01 to 1% by weight of one or more nitrogen-containing costabilizer wherein the molding when in contact with aggressive acids or with aggressive acid-containing cleaning agents is resistive to said aggressive acids or said aggressive acid-containing cleaning agents and said nitrogen-containing costabilizer comprises melamine.